

**Are you coming for
Christmas Eve?**



L A F A Y E T T E
COMMUNITYCHURCH

:: digital resources ::

giving: lafayettecc.org/give

calendar: lafayettecc.org/calendar

live event: lafayettecc.org/live

(of course, the **wi-fi** is free)



L A F A Y E T T E
COMMUNITYCHURCH

HOPE
fulfilled





May 29, 1917

—

November 22, 1963



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Jan 2009

67% approval





Dec 2013

39.8% approval



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Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:13-14



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Christmas Bells by Longfellow

Christmas 1863

A hand holding a glowing Christmas stocking against a starry background. The stocking is red and white, and the background is dark with many small, bright stars.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day

Their old, familiar carols play,

And wild and sweet

The words repeat

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

**And thought how, as the day had
come,**

The belfries of all Christendom

**Had rolled along
The unbroken song**

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

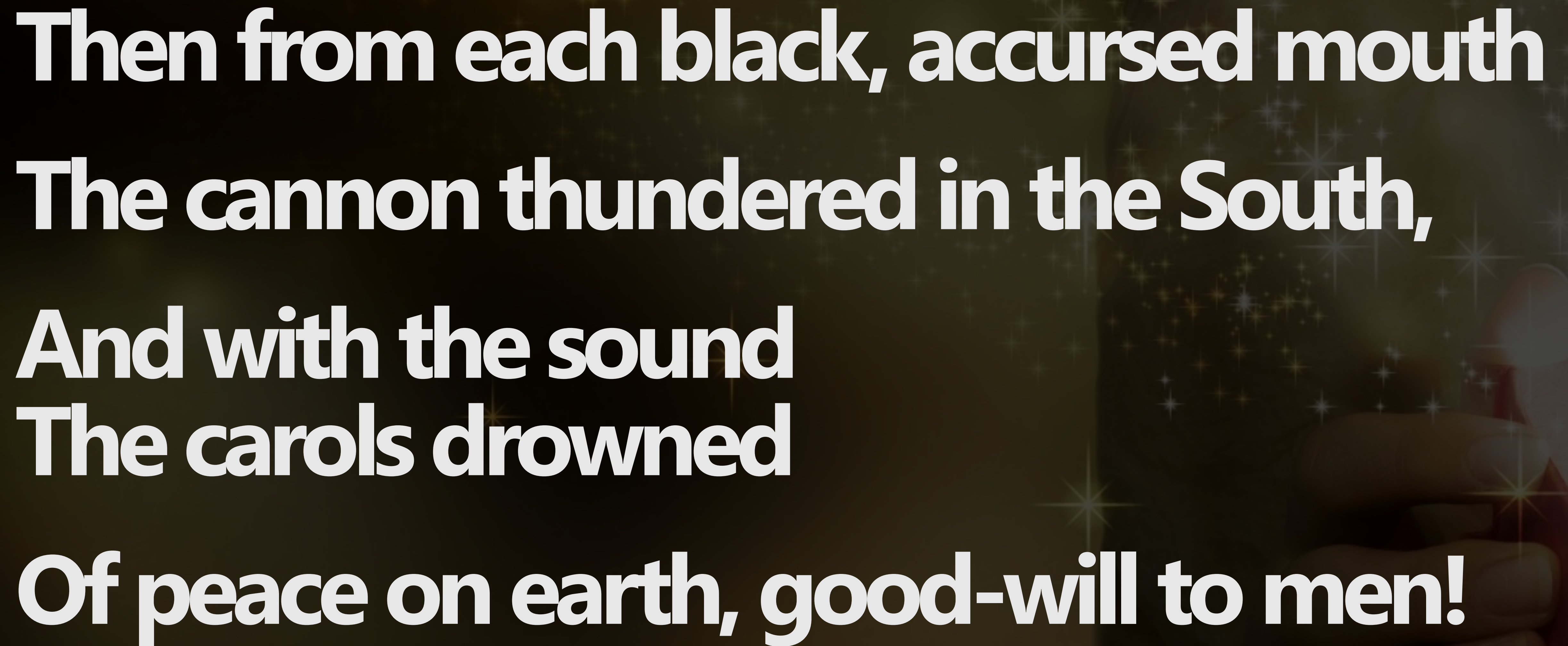
Till ringing, singing on its way,

The world revolved from night to day,

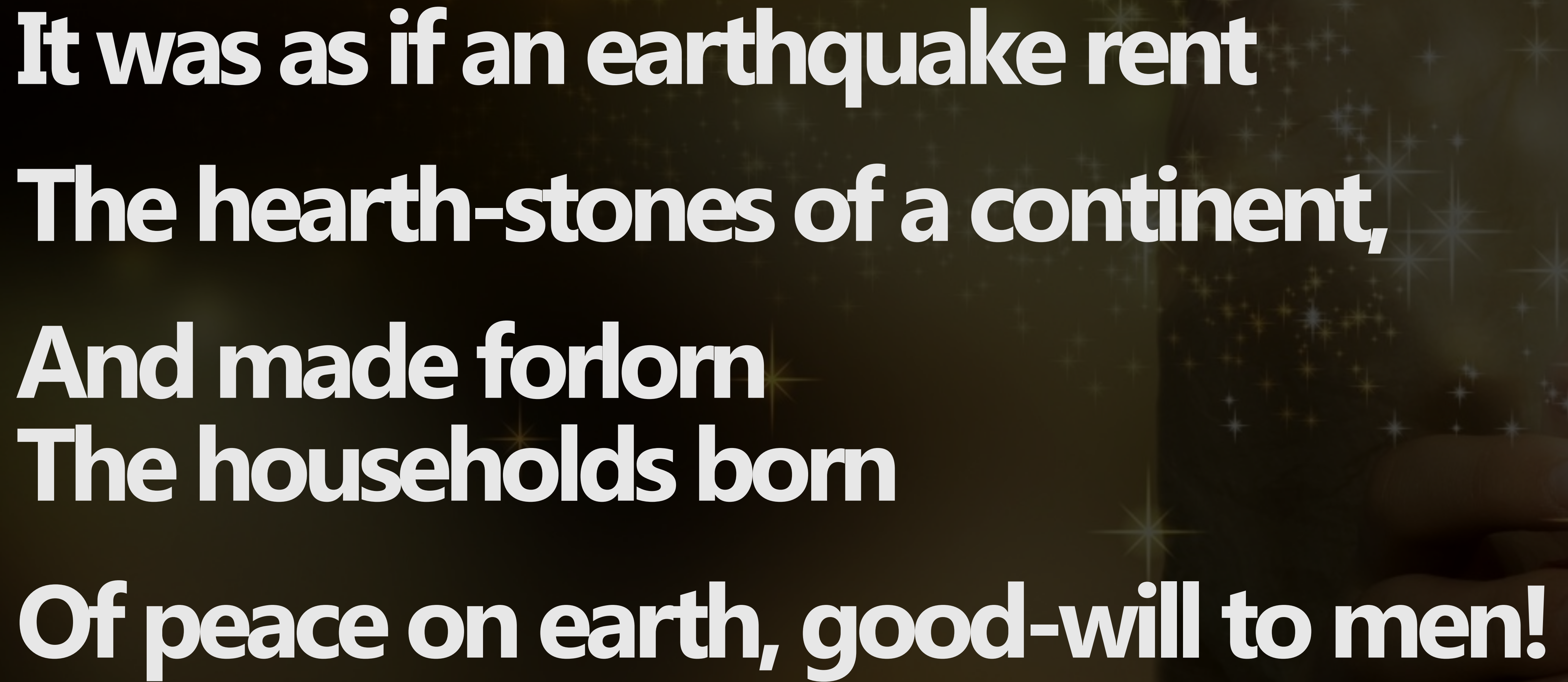
A voice, a chime,

A chant sublime

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!



**Then from each black, accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
And with the sound
The carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!**


A hand is shown holding a glowing, multi-colored orb (red, orange, yellow, green, blue) against a dark background filled with numerous bright, multi-pointed stars. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**It was as if an earthquake rent
The hearth-stones of a continent,
And made forlorn
The households born
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!**

**And in despair I bowed my head;
“There is no peace on earth,” I said;
“For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!”**



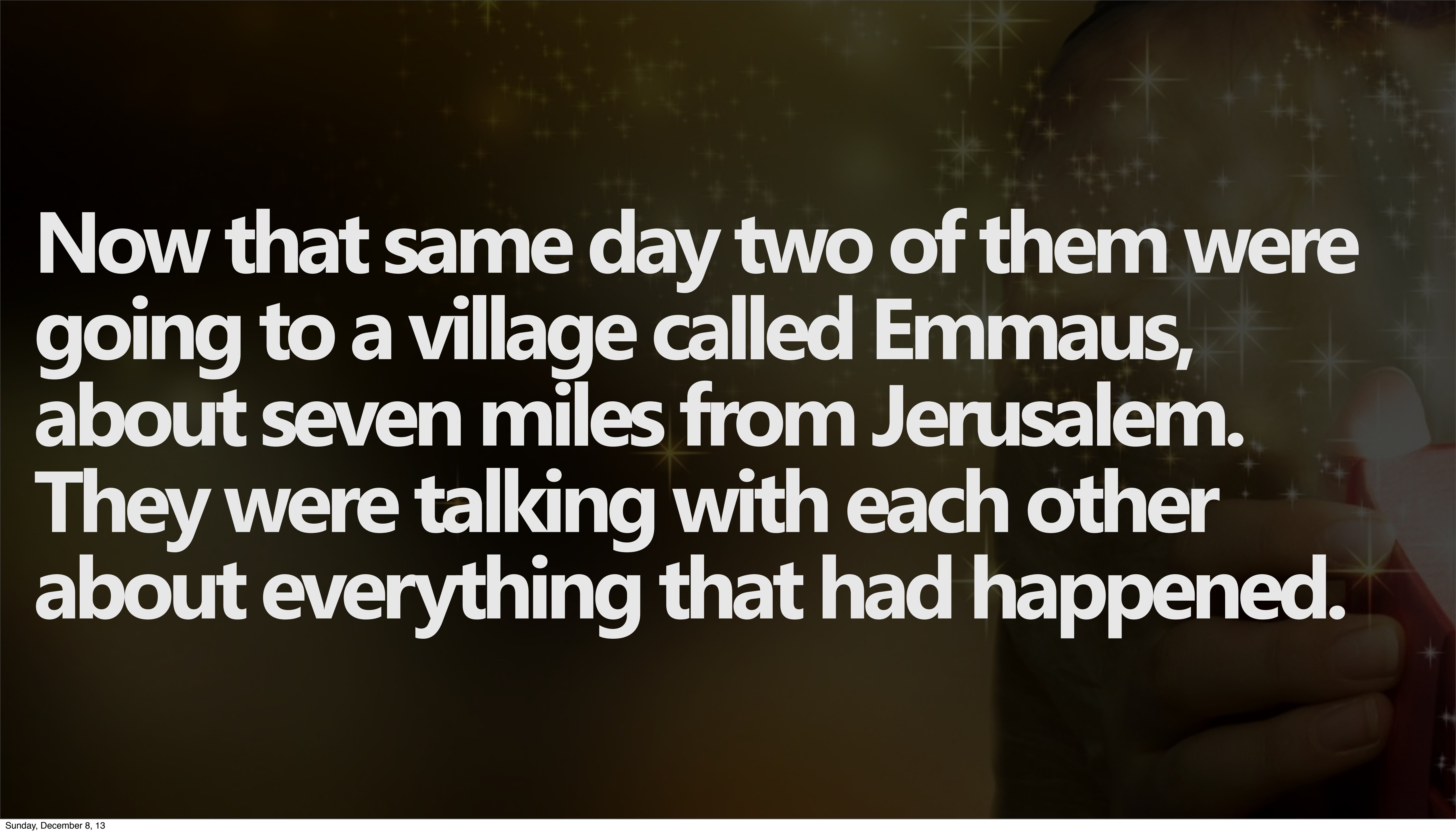
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A hand holding a lit candle against a background of golden sparkles.

Luke 24:13-32

(p. 738)

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The background is dark with a subtle, glowing starry pattern. On the right side, there is a faint, semi-transparent image of a person's hands, possibly in a gesture of prayer or holding something, with a soft red glow around them.

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened.

As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

Luke 24:13-16



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He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast.

Luke 24:17



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One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

Luke 24:18

“What things?” he asked.

“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied.

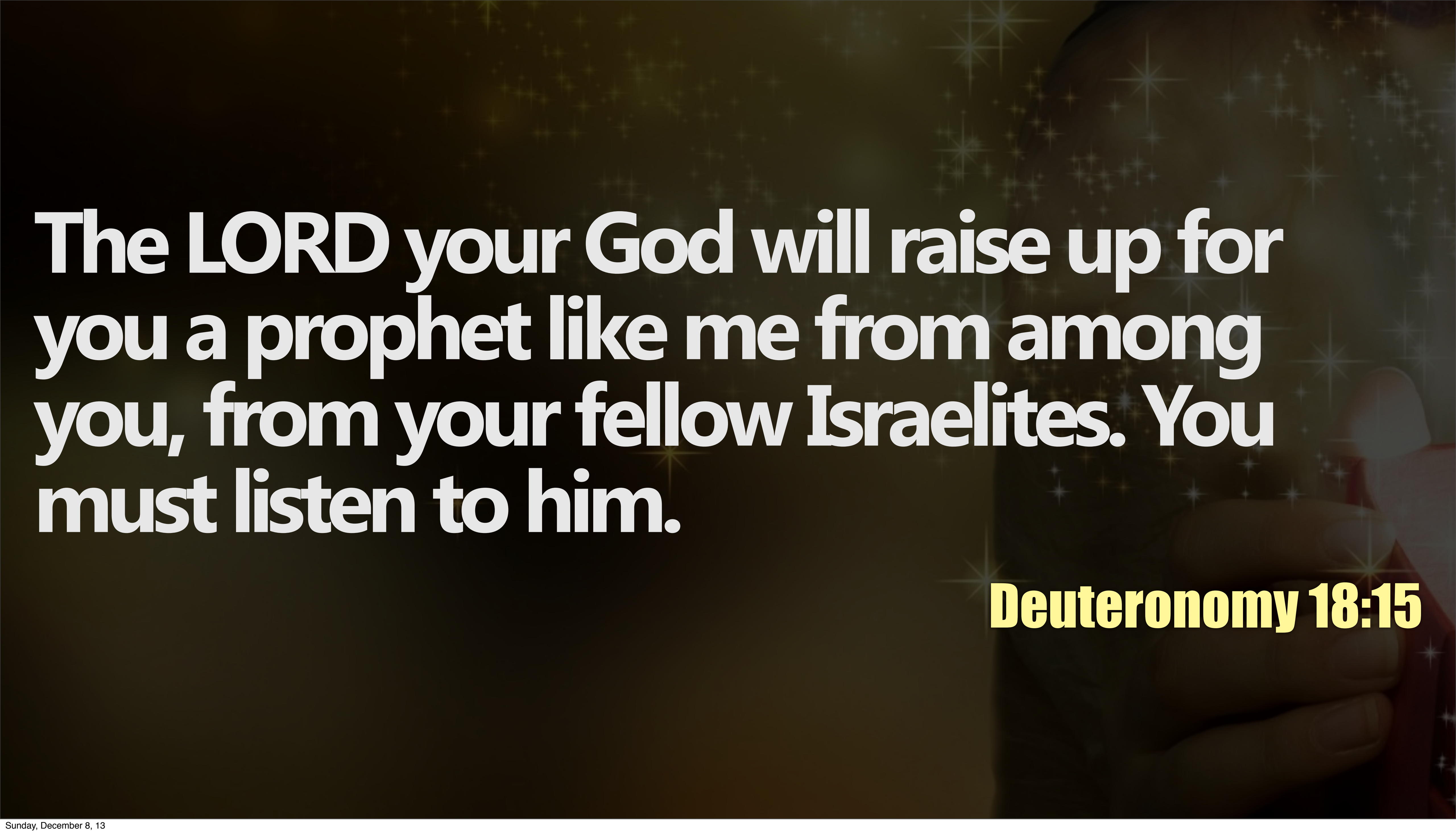
“He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him;

but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.

Luke 24:19-21

God had promised
a **PROPHET**
like **MOSES.**

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A person is shown from the chest up, holding an open book and reading. The background is dark with many small, bright, star-like sparkles. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.

Deuteronomy 18:15

A hand holding a lit candle against a background of golden stars. The candle is lit, and the flame is bright. The background is a warm, golden color with many small, bright stars scattered throughout. The hand is in the foreground, and the candle is held in a way that the flame is visible. The overall mood is warm and hopeful.

God had promised
a KING like DAVID.

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When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

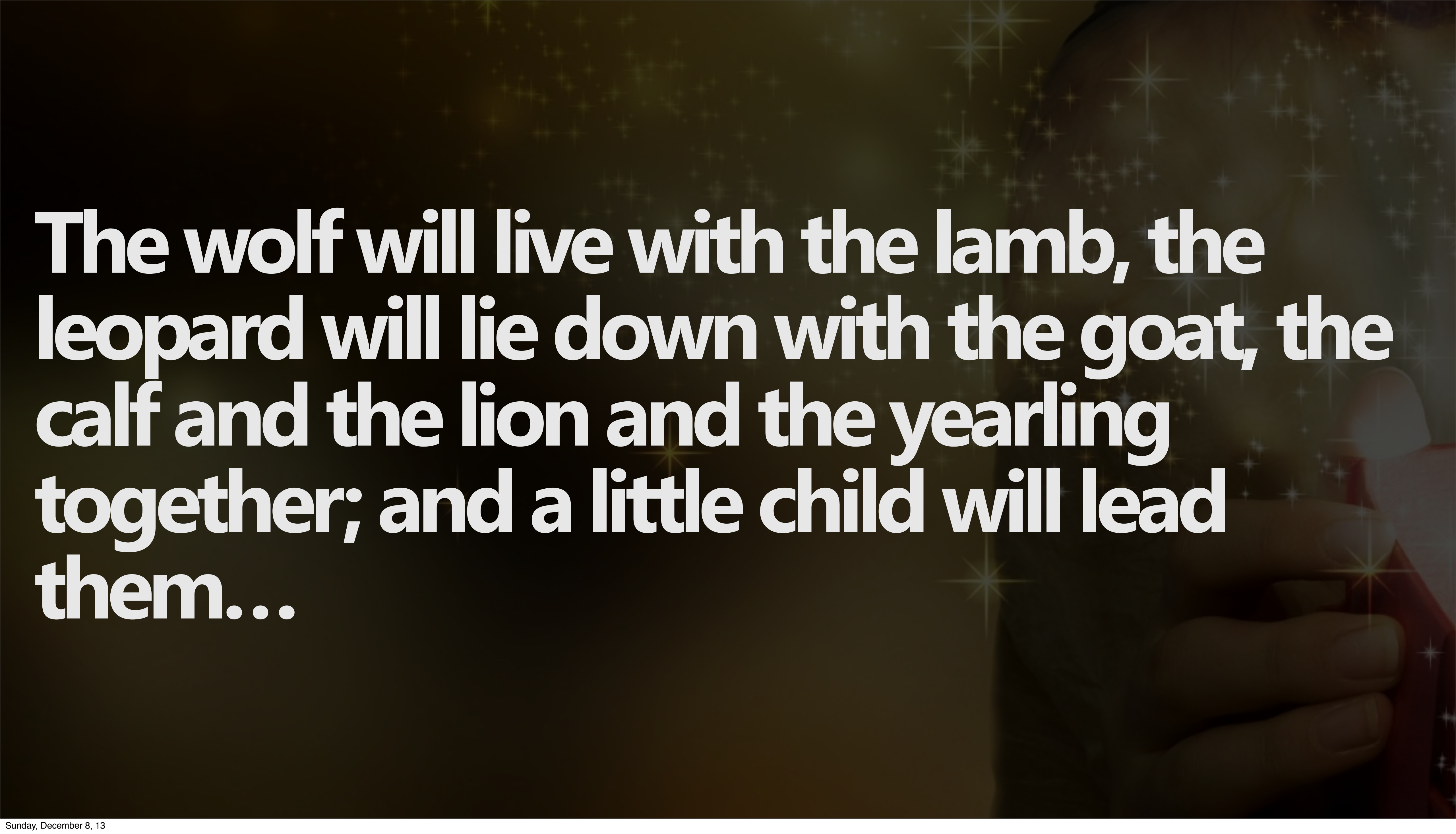
I will be his father, and he will be my son... Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.”

2 Samuel 7:12-16

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a lit candle. The candle is red and has a bright flame. The background is a warm, golden-brown color with many small, bright, star-like sparkles scattered throughout. The overall mood is warm and hopeful.

God had promised
a LAND of PEACE

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A hand is shown in the lower right corner, holding a glowing, multi-pointed star or orb. The background is dark with many smaller, faint stars scattered throughout. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them...

In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious. In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the surviving remnant of his people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush,

from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the Mediterranean. He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth.

Isaiah 11:6, 10-12

A hand holding a lit candle with a golden starburst background. The candle is lit, and the flame is bright. The background is a warm, golden color with many small, bright starburst lights scattered throughout. The hand is in the foreground, holding the candle. The overall mood is warm and hopeful.

God had promised
a RELATIONSHIP
with Him

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“Therefore say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again.'”

“They will return to it and remove all its vile images and detestable idols. I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.



Then they will follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. They will be my people, and I will be their God.

Ezekiel 11:17-20



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... but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body.

They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

Luke 24:21-24



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A close-up photograph of a hand holding a lit candle. The candle is lit, and there is a bright starburst effect emanating from the flame. The background is dark, and the overall scene is illuminated by the warm light of the candle.

**Jesus doesn't come
the way we EXPECT
him to come.**

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He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?"

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:25-27



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A psalm of David

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish? My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest....

**But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by everyone, despised by the
people. All who see me mock me; they
hurl insults, shaking their heads. "He
trusts in the LORD," they say, "let the
LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him,
since he delights in him." ...**

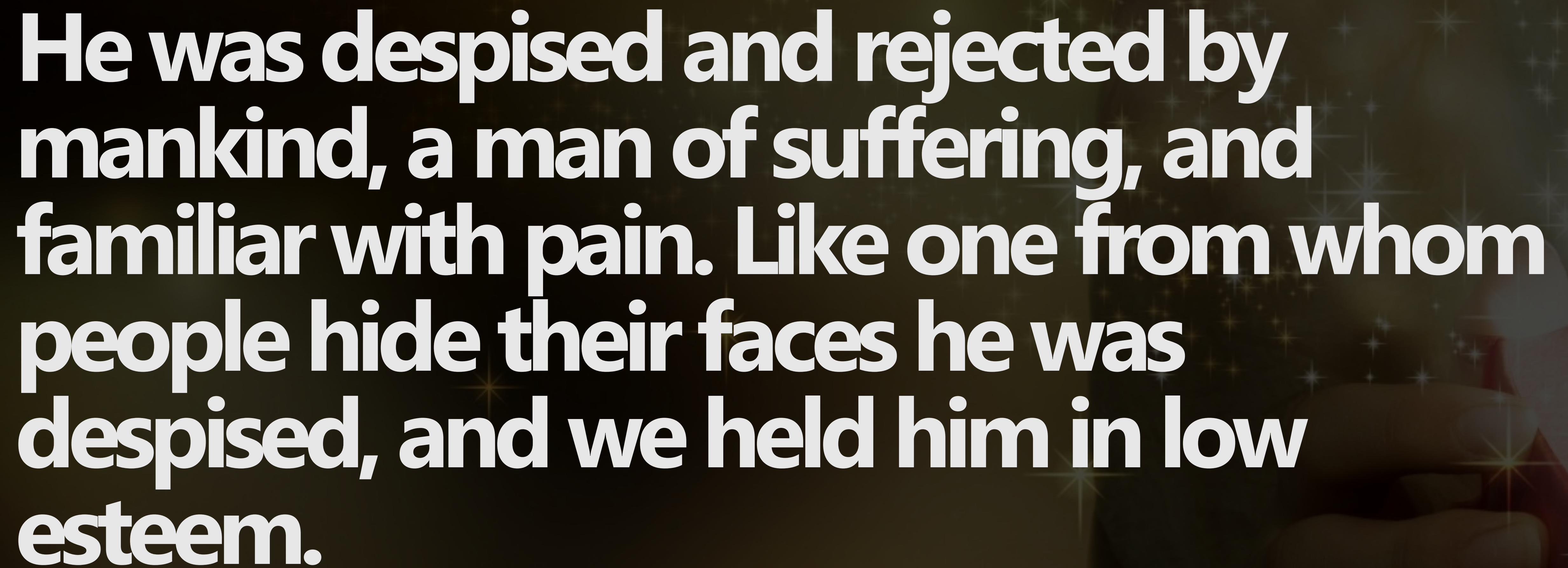
I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me. My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.

Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet. All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me. They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.

Psalm 22:1-2, 6-8, 14-18



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A hand is shown holding a glowing, multi-colored orb (red, orange, yellow, green, blue) against a dark background filled with numerous bright, multi-pointed stars. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

**We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the LORD has laid on him the
iniquity of us all.**

Isaiah 53:3-6

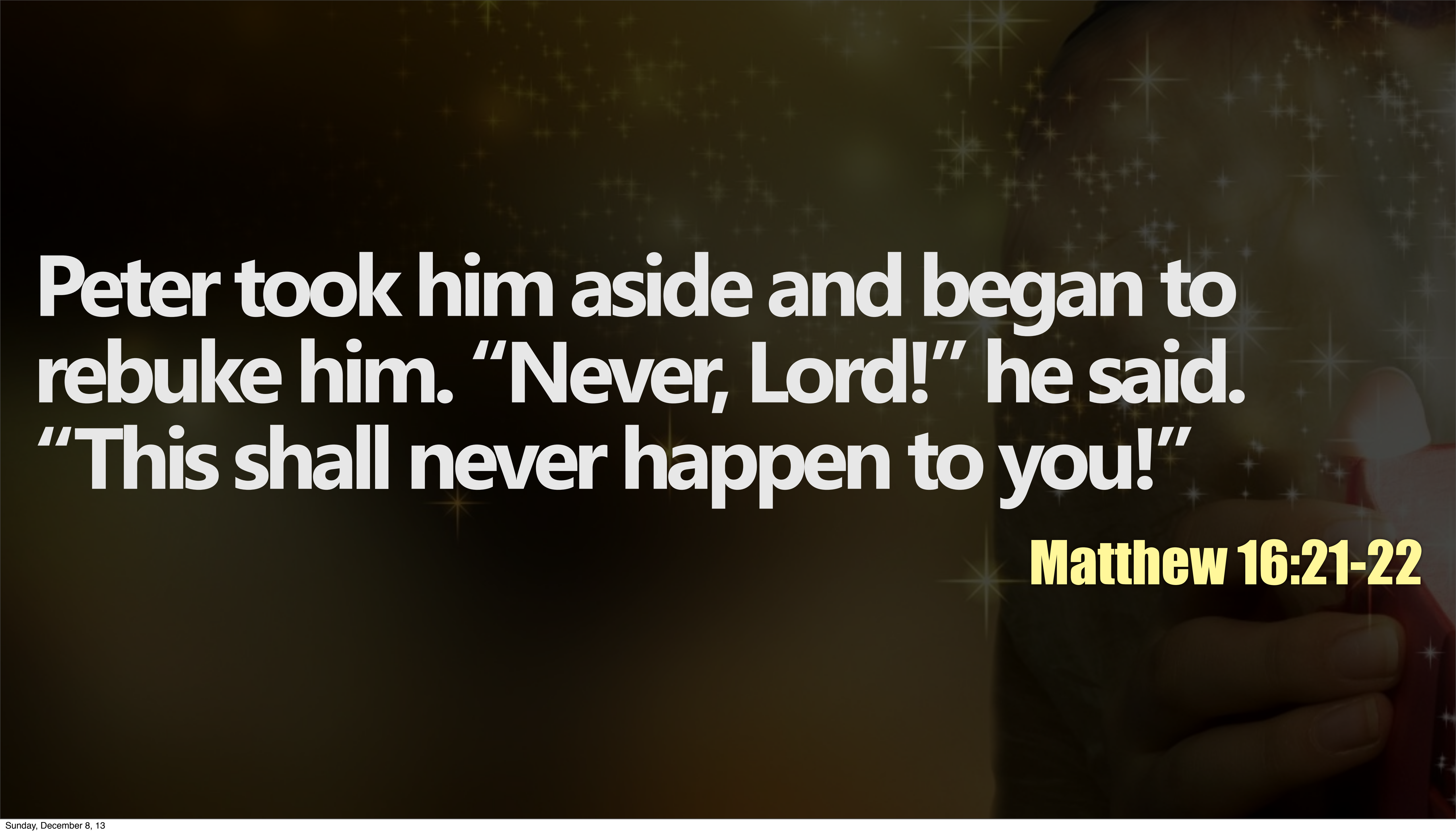


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For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Matthew 12:40

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.



Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

Matthew 16:21-22



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The hope they
IMAGINED for
themselves was
BLOCKING the hope
right in front of them.

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As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.

They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:28-32




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And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

Luke 22:19-20



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A close-up photograph of a hand holding a lit candle. The candle is lit, and there is a bright starburst effect emanating from the flame. The background is a warm, golden-brown color with many small, bright starburst effects scattered throughout.

The hope we NEED is
the hope Jesus
FULFILLS.

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Before sliding into
disappointment with
Jesus, learn who he
REALLY is and why he
really CAME.

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Christmas Bells by Longfellow

Christmas 1863

A hand holding a glowing Christmas stocking against a starry background. The stocking is white with a red cuff and is filled with small, bright lights. The background is dark with many small, white, star-like sparkles.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day

Their old, familiar carols play,

And wild and sweet

The words repeat

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

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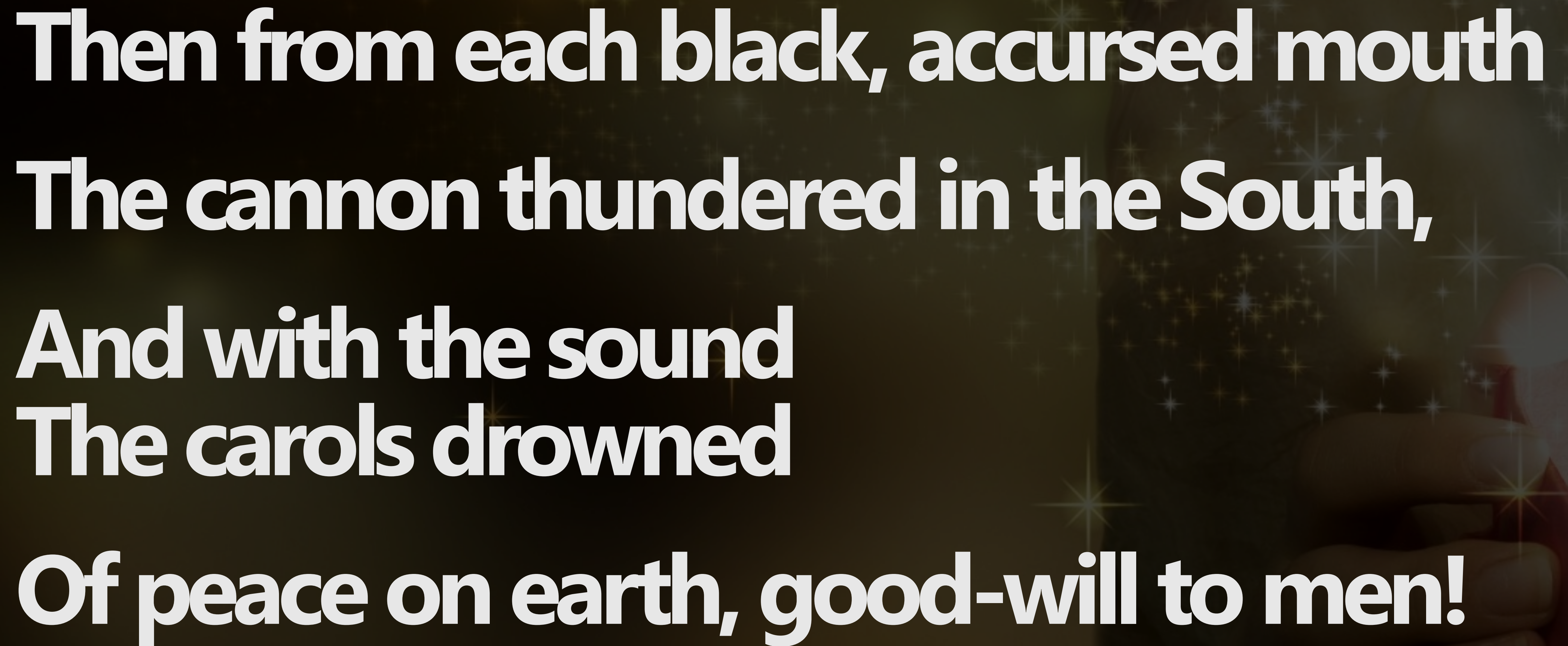
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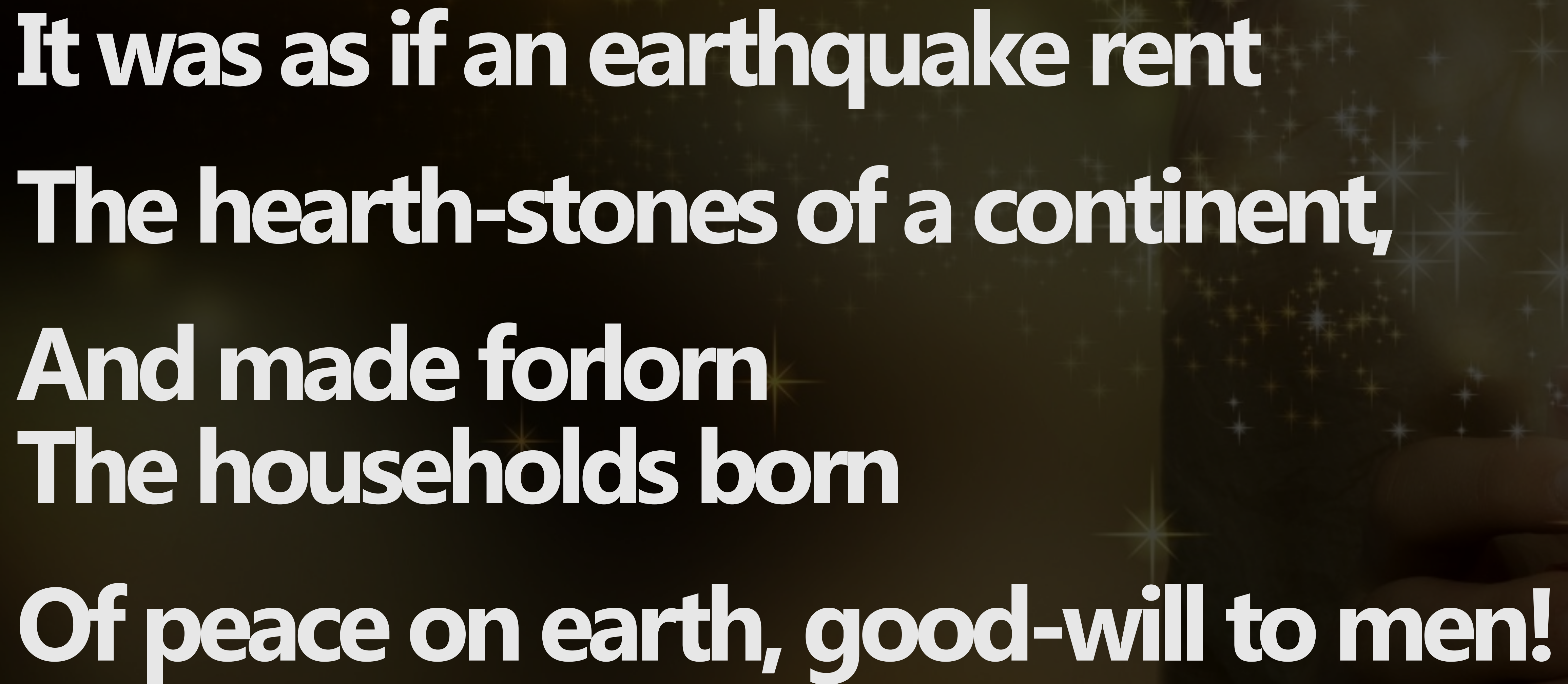
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And made forlorn
The households born
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!**

**And in despair I bowed my head;
“There is no peace on earth,” I said;
“For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!”**

**Then pealed the bells more loud and
deep:**

“God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;

**The Wrong shall fail,
The Right prevail,**

With peace on earth, good-will to men.”



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fulfilled





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